

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application after this Amendment; claims 1 and 13-17 being independent. Claims 18-23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. In light of the amendments and remarks contained herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 9, 11, and 18-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Ma* (USP 5,880,928); rejected claims 17 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Brenner et al.* (USP 5,786,983); and rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ma* in view of *Smith II* (5,768,163). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for noting that claim 8 contains allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 13-17 to more appropriately recite the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the present invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 - Ma

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite, *inter alia*, "a chamber capable of accepting a removable external device." The Examiner relies on Ma to disclose a chamber for accepting an external device, citing to ref. 222 or 212. The Examiner additionally asserts that Ma discloses the external device is removable, citing to Figs. 2-4. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

It is respectfully submitted that Ma teaches a notebook computer with audio and video effects. As shown in Fig. 2, CCD camera 222 and sound boxes 212 contain wires that indicate a permanent connection to the computing device.

In contrast, the present invention as set forth in claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*, a personal computer comprising a chamber capable of accepting a removable external device. It is respectfully submitted that Ma fails to teach a chamber capable of accepting a removable external device. As clearly depicted in Fig. 2 and Fig. 4, both the camera and the speakers contain wires that indicate a permanent connection to the laptop computer. Thus, these external devices are not removable. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by Ma.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-12 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based upon their dependency on claim 1.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite, *inter alia*, a personal computer comprising a chamber disposed within the display unit, the chamber adapted to accept at least a portion of a removable external device therewithin. As noted above, Ma discloses a permanent connection of the CCD camera 222 and the sound boxes 212 to the computing device. As such, Ma fails to anticipate claim 13 by failing to teach a chamber adapted to accept at least a portion of a removable external device. Thus, claim 13 is allowable over Ma.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 14 recites, *inter alia*, a method for providing an interface to a removable external device and a computer comprising, *inter alia*, providing an electrical connection inside the chamber such that at least a portion of the removable external device is capable of being inserted into the chamber such that an electrical connection is established therewithin between the removable external device and the electrical connector. As noted above, Ma teaches establishing a permanent connection between the camera 222 and the sound boxes 212, thus failing to teach providing an electrical connection inside the chamber such that at least a portion of the removable

external device is capable of being inserted into the chamber such that an electrical connection is established therewithin between the removable external device and the electrical connector. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14, as amended, is not anticipated by *Ma*.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 15, as amended, contains elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 13 and, thus, claim 15 is not anticipated by *Ma* for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 13.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 16 to recite, *inter alia*, an apparatus for interfacing a computer with a removable external device, the apparatus comprising a chamber having an opening disposed on the outside of the display unit configured to adaptably receive the removable external device. As noted above, *Ma* discloses a permanent connection between camera 222 and sound boxes 212. Thus, *Ma* fails to teach a chamber having an opening disposed on the outside of the display unit configured to adaptively receive the removable external device. Thus, claim 16 is not anticipated by *Ma*.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 - *Brenner et al.*

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Brenner et al.*, the Examiner asserts that *Brenner et al.* teaches the display unit 102

having a display face 122 being movably coupled via a cord 113 to a base unit 112 such that the display face 122 forms an angle generally less than 180° with the base unit 112. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

While the Examiner refers to base unit 112 as taught by *Brenner et al.*, it is respectfully submitted that *Brenner et al.* clearly delineates reference 112 as a keyboard (col. 5, ll. 6-8). *Brenner et al.* discloses display screen portion 132 projecting rearwardly from a base 114 at a predetermined angle (col. 4, ll. 38-39). Thus, the Examiner relying on keyboard 112 to teach a base unit is not a reasonable interpretation of the claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Brenner et al.* fails to teach or suggest a method for providing an interface to a removable external device in a computer comprising, *inter alia*, forming a chamber inside a display unit coupled to the computer, the display unit having a display face and being movably coupled to a base unit such that the display face forms an angle generally less than 180° with the base unit, and the chamber having walls for covering a bottom side, a right and left side, and a front and back side of the removable external device, wherein the chamber is configured to receive the removable external device. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 is not anticipated by *Brenner et al.*

With regard to the Examiner's assertions that certain claim language should not be afforded patentable weight, Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, as the Applicant has amended the claims to more appropriately recite the present invention, Applicant believes this issue is now moot.

Conclusion

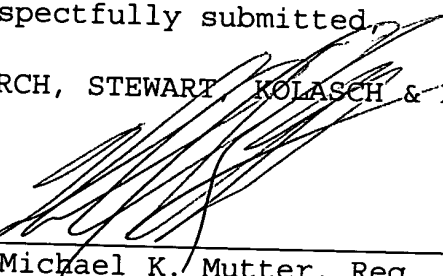
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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